

**Cultural and Ethnic Communities Leadership Council (CECLC) Meeting Minutes**  
**September 19, 2014 from 11:30 until 2:00, Wilder Foundation**  
<http://www.dhs.state.mn.us/CulturalEthnicLeadershipCouncil>

**Members Present:** Titilayo Bediako, Pam Cosby, Anna Mazig, Bauz Nengchu, Dave Haley, Kamala Puram, Maria Sarabia, Nathan Moracco, Pa H. Lor, Pahoua Yang, Paula Haywood, Tenzin Dolkar (For Sia Her), Elyse Ruiz (For Hector Garcia), Mitchell Davis Jr., Rev. Janet Johnson, Vayong Moua, LaJuana Whitmore, Sen. Kathy Sheran, Sen. Tony Lourey,

**Members Absent:** Yende Andersen, Muriel Gubasta, Sia Her, Ann Hill, Edward McDonald, Jose Gonzalez, LaRone Greer, Hector Garcia, Annamarie Hill, Rep. Jim Abeler, Rep. Tom Huntley, Rep. Tina Liebling, Rep. Tara Mack, Sen. Michelle Benson, Sen. Julie Rosen, Kamaludin Hassan, Saciido Shaie, Sarita Ennis

**DHS Staff:** Antonia Wilcoxon, Denise Flock, Mee Cheng

**Guests:** Eleanor Croce (Resource Minnesota)

1. **Welcome**
2. **Review minutes from August 15, 2014**
  - a. **Motion to approve minutes made by Paula Haywood**
  - b. **Seconded by: LaJuana Whitmore**
  - c. **Motion approved**
3. **Review Proposed Agenda for September 19, 2014**
  - a. **Change next meeting date to October 17**
  - b. **Motion to approve with changed date made by Anna Mazig**
  - c. **Seconded by: Paula Haywood**
  - d. **Motion approved**
4. **ACA and Immigration Policy – Fatema Haji-Taki from DHS**
  - a. **(check with Terri G.) Handouts are scanned and will be added to minutes.**
5. **Follow up on Bylaws Language Review**
  - a. **There is currently nothing in the bylaws about sending substitutes in your place.**
  - b. **Discussion around substitutes and their ability to vote. It was decided only members can vote. Not their substitutes**
  - c. **Possibly add language to bylaws regarding substitutes.**
  - d. **Bylaws group needs to revisit this to discuss substitutes/alternates.**
  - e. **Assistant Commissioner and Legislative members can vote.**
  - f. **There are 33 members total on the Council. 33 voting members. The quorum was made of an active number 25. This was done to allow legislators to be gone during session.**
  - g. **The quorum wording for majority, using the number 13 as members present to have a quorum, did not change.**

- h. **Vote on addition to bylaw Part 2, Section G.**
    - i. **Add (6). Provide notice to appointed member/s who have five total absences or missed three consecutive meetings regarding possible resignation from council.**
      - 1. **Motion by Paula Haywood**
      - 2. **Seconded by Mitchell Davis**
      - 3. **Motion approved**
  - i. **Vote on addition to bylaw Part 2, Section G**
    - i. **Add (7). Inform the Commissioner of Human Services of council members fitting description in newly added item (6).**
      - 1. **Motion by Dave Haley**
      - 2. **Seconded by Rev. Janet Johnson**
      - 3. **Motion approved**
6. **Discussion: How does the council want to present itself in the larger community? What is needed?**
- a. **Minneapolis Youth Congress: Group of youth we could reach out to and let them know about our council. Try to get on their agenda to discuss the council.**
  - b. **It would be nice to have a calendar of events that the council could participate in. Either as a subcommittee or individuals.**
  - c. **Develop standards talking points that everyone could use.**
  - d. **Talking points for specific topics.**
  - e. **Develop a 3 sentence pitch to use when council members are participating in smaller meetings. So, we are consistent and all saying the same thing.**
  - f. **The organizations/businesses of the current council members would like to hear about what the council is doing. Some members are using their work time and it would be nice to show them what has been done so far and what we are looking to do.**
  - g. **How do we get back to the legislature?**
  - h. **We need to develop a community engagement plan.**
  - i. **What are our assets and how do we implement that?**
  - j. **Let's examine to see if it lands in one of the subcommittees.**
  - k. **It is the charge of the council to figure this out and then look for support of DHS.**
7. **Open Forum – what is going on around Equity in the community?**
- a. **Saturday, October 4. Dr. Juan Carlos Arauz**
  - b. **Specialty Courts discussion: Judiciary event – already took place; seminar on specialty courts. Organized by MN Second Chance Coalition.**
    - i. **Council interested in partnering with courts to examine why communities of color are not using these courts.**
    - ii. **Paula H. volunteered to connect with Sixth Judicial staff from specialty courts to see if someone can come in and present to the Council.**
    - iii. **Statistics show communities of color going through specialty courts do not complete at the same rate.**
    - iv. **Are specialty courts moving us backwards?**

- v. There is a feeling that the specialty courts are not being utilized by the people of color.
    - c. Equity Cabinet
      - i. Put on our radar/agenda to follow up and discuss so it does not get lost.
  - 8. Public Comment
  - 9. Pam will not be able to attend October meeting. Needed a council member to nominate someone as acting chair for October meeting.
    - a. Kamala Puram nominated Paula Haywood.
    - b. Seconded by Vayong Moua
    - c. Motion passed
    - d. Paula Haywood will be acting chair at October meeting
  - 10. Adjourn
    - a. Meeting adjourned at 2:00pm

**Next meeting: October 17, 2014**